

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification beginning on page 7, line 8 as follows:

Advantages of the invention will be set forth in the description which follows, and in part will be obvious from the description, or may be ~~learned~~learned by practice of the invention. Advantages of the invention may be realized and obtained by means of the instrumentalities and combinations particularly pointed out hereinafter.

Please amend the Abstract of the specification on page 28 as follows:

~~An insertion section has an inner channel interposed between a distal open end opening to the distal portion of the insertion section and a forceps port opening to the proximal portion of the insertion section. The forceps port of the inner channel is provided at a grip portion of an operation section~~ An endoscope apparatus has a forceps port of an inner channel interposed between a distal open end opening of an insertion section to a proximal portion of an insertion section, provided near a bending operation portion of a grip portion.